

There is a netellarpe

Treatyse for all maner persons to
reade, and hath to name, the
Maydens Crosse rewe.



Anns Byfron, amyd des January
With his frosty berde, & thyrke lockes roze
Begen the colde calendas of february
Right than I thought, how longe me before
Who mayster Lydgate, dyd applye hym soze
Fables to fayne into mazarre
To shewe the euyl theyr iniquyte.

All this consyderd to my bedde I went
fallynge a slepe than full ryght shortly
And in this slumber me thought in contynent
By an olyuette I was full todayne
Wher lat a Mayde complaynyng rufully
Bearyng her handes, and under bowys dyd shroode
In the maner folowynge bewaylynge all alowde.

Al.

Alas the daye I may nowe sorowe euer
My good frende is gone whiche wolde haue remaine
The tyme so paste nowe shall I neuer
The losse no wonder thoughte that I complayne
With syghes depe and with mortall payne
My flowyng age I spent in banyshe
With all wretched folke and fragylte.

I take no hede but o dame reason
Whiche these prouerbes folowynge tyd me tell
Up on all the letters to haue concluson
So was I ruled by thre enemyes so fell
As the worlde, the fleshe, and the fende of hell
But as I may, I wyll them specify
Eche after other as I haue them truely.

A.

A last spot ledeth the bydyll rayne
Alas that I loued so concupyscence
Alas tyme past may not turre agayne
Alas that I lost it by negligence
Alas to lernynge I had no dysgience
Alas that euer I loued unhappyness
Alas I haue banyshed reason and sadnes.

B.

Beware thou youth euer more of yblenes
Beware of pryde, and also enuy
Beware of pryde, be ruled by mekenes
Beware of couetousnes and of glory
Beware also of the spynne of Lethery
Beware ryght well also of presumpryon
Beware and wyse also of false rebellyon.

3.ij.

C.

Coueyte heauen with dedes of Charite
Coueyte comynge with all thy busynes
Coueyte the company of dame sydelite
Coueyte wysdome and all stablesnes
Couerte repentaunce for the wretchednes
Coueyte measure for thy bodely wealthe
Coueyte the waye also of thy soules healthe.

D.

Diede god also aboute every kyng.
Diede for synne euermore the bengerance
Diede for the tyme, the tyme of rekenyng
Diede for to do thy neyghboure anoyauce
Diede aboute other thy selfe for to auauce
Died for to do euill alwayne certayne
Diede euermore also thy souerayne.

E.

Exyle from the falschode and flaterie
Exyle from the euermore the byrgoug
Exyle also byle speche and rebaudy
Exyle all thynges now superstruous
Exyle byldayne whiche is presumptuous
Exyle folp and dysimulation
Exyle alwayne also detraction.

F.

Folowe the trace of truth and ryghtuousnes
Folowe example of vertuous gouernaunce
Folowe bounte and also lowlpnes
Folowe measure in all thy purueaunce
Folowe wysdome by good remembraunce
Folowe Justyce without corruption
Folowe conscience at every season.

Al.

G.

Gladly be ruled by counceyll prudent
Gladly enclyne alwayes to reason
Gladly to lerne be thou merke diligent
Gladly take treuth to thy companion
Gladly forlake the yll operation
Gladly serue God and thy pryuee also
Gladly be patient in trouble and wo.

H.

Haue good respect vnto thynges all
Haue thou no doubt of holy scripture
Haue God in thy mynde most memory all
Haue gentyll chere and countenance demure
Haue good remorse to every creature
Haue most thy trust in Goddes goodnes
Haue not thy trust in worldly ryches.

I.

I knewe nothyng in youth what I was
I wolde not knowe the steppes of vertue
I thought full ytell howe my youth shoulde pas
I wolde nothyng the carnall byre excheue
I thought good fortune wolde me well reueue
I was subiect of that I was ware
I ytell thought of myne after care.

K.

Knewe thou God and thy selfe secondly
Knowe with thy pryuee by deuote obedience
Knowe thy neyghboure well and certaynely
Knowe well connyng by deuote experyence
Knowe well in to whom thou mayst haue confydence
Knowe well the poore and not hym forlake
Knowe hym well that thou of counsaile make.

2
A.
Loue God also above every thyng
Loue thy neighbour and cherishe thy people
Loue not ryght nor backe reake thyng
Loue alwaye peace and auoyde the stryfe
Loue in honelle to lede thy lyfe
Loue euer myght and verruous dysporte
Loue to the wofull to geue ayde and comforte.

M.
Woche myschyfe cometh of great debate
Woche drynke doth wyldome alwaye
Woche sorowe doth the courage abate
Woche euill graueth a great outrage
Woche medlynge letteth great auantage
Woche Ioye grounded vpon byrte
Woche harme doth growe of instabylte.

N.
Nothyng is sweeter than the dewe of grace
No man may taste it, but by Sapience
No man without charyte may heauen purchase
No man without laboure may haue a science
Nothyng to man is better than pacience
No earthly riches, but it is transmutable
No man without maners can be conuenable.

O.
O most all man rype out of deedly synne
O fooly the loue of worldly banyte
O bnynde man to amende the bygytne
O man remember Goddes benygnyte
O man Goddes goodnes consyde and se
O man remember howe he graunteth space
O man in tyme nowe take the gyfte of grace.

3.ii.

P.

Please God thy maker, and kepe his commaundement
Please not thy selfe, by carnall affectyon
Please well thy pryncce, and be to hym obedyent
Please not the worlde with holl occasyon
Please the causes of thy fyrr creatyon
Please not the Druryll, by Wyde, Envy, and Ire
Please hym above, that is the heauenly Emperre.

Q.

Quare deo fui sic contrarius
Quare heu non ipsum amavi
Quare noluissem cum habuerim tempus
Quare be sic semper peccavi
Quare mundum ego frequentavi
Quare me sequeris o tibi in banis
Quare laboras sic mundi inanis.

R.

Ryght greuously I haue God offended
Ryght nought I thought vpon his Justyce
Ryght tyrell I thought for to be amended
Ryght oft I did my neyghboure preiudice
Ryght well I thought fortune shulde suffice
Ryght tyrell I thought on my soules healthe
Ryght so my mynde was all on worldly wealth.

S.

Supporte not wronge but ryght contrary
Supporte Justyce with all thy dyligence
Supporte not thy seruant to do bylany
Supporte no man whan he doth offence
Supporte alwaye the grounde of sapience
Supporte pouerte in the tyme of nede
Supporte alwaye the ryghtfull man to spede.

Alas the saynges whiche I haue yow tolde
I ytell regarded in the tyme so past
But now by reason I do them verily
Full welles hym that may haue grace
Beware ryght well, spende not your yowthe: wast
Nese no tyme, but spende it hartuously
Than shall ye come to heauen merely.

Wretched mayde plouged all in care
The tyme so past may ryght sore bewaile
That the fielle withouth had me in a snare
Alas the Deuill dyd me ryght sore assaile
The world also dyd geue me a battaile
These thye me fettered in a deadly place
Till I was helpt out by good dame grace.

Whiche me hath set in his garden grene
Under this olyuetree to synge hym self wylly
Impt des this arber so ryght fayre and wene
Gyunge great lawdes unto God almyghty
Whiche me hath brought out of vayne glory
And there with all she beganne to synge
Lawdes to her maker in the fayre mornynge.

The roche croued and I dyd awake
Greatly musynge upon my bysoun
And vnto me I bressly began to take
Denne and synke for to wyte that season
All that I had hands without abusoun
Dyrenge you all that it doth here oz se
To pardon me of your benygnte.

Finis. q. Roden myr.

